on the basis of sex determination of 186 alligators killed at random by hunters (60.8% males) in one instance and of 46 adults (60.1% males) in another instance. However Turner (1977) comments that Chabreck's above observation may be biased in favour of males which were selectively killed, as "females in captivity were extremely timid and rarely seen except during courtship and nesting periods", Joanen and McNease (1971), quoted in Turner (1977).

It has been hypothesized for turtles that embryonic production of sexes is co-related to incubation temperatures (reference not aavilable with the authors) and this may also be true for Crocodilians, but a relevant question which emerges in this context is whether evolutionary selection has opted for selective production of males or females. Either case may have it's own survival significance. Production of greater numbers of females will result in optimum utilisation of available habitat by the polygamous Crocodilians in terms of returns in off-spring production, while production of greater numbers of males will ensure fertilization of all available females.

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23. GECKO FEEDING ON A MOUSE

Our bungalow in the scrub-jungle is inhabited by a number of large geckoes (*Hemidactylus leschenaulti*), and one evening about 8 p.m. I observed a large gecko (about 5 inches in total length), in our kitchen, snatching by its head, a young mouse (*Mus musculus*) (about 1½ inches in total length), running on the rafters. It then started hitting the mouse against the wall repeatedly, very much as it does with cockroaches or other insects, or as some birds do with their live-prey. At the same time, the gecko squeezed the head of the mouse within its mouth, and waited for a long time, till I presume, life was extinct in the mouse. It then started swallowing the mouse, head first and took nearly 15 minutes to swallow the whole lot, as slowly as a python does.

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24. A NEW RECORD OF *SALMO TRUTTA FARIO* LINN. FROM GOBINDSAGAR RESERVOIR

The fish fauna of Gobindsagar and its associated waters has been described by various workers Bhatnagar (1973), Tilak & Hussain (1977), Sehgal (1974), and Sharma *et al.* (unpublished) but occurrence of trout has not been reported from this reservoir. Observation on occasional occurrence of this species in the reservoir after 1977 were made in 6th Workshop Report. However the first confirmed record of *Salmo trutta fario* Linn. (T. L. 280 mm; T. W. 250 gm.) was from Damera Ghat, in Lathiani area, in April 1981, and another weighing 2.250 kg, caught in 155 mm mesh size gillnet near Berighat at Bilaspur, giving credence to the information about stray occurrence after construction of the Beas-Sutlej link. The specimen obtained from Lathiani had the following characteristics:

Fin formula: D. 12 (3/9); A. 10 (3/7); P. 14; V. 9 (1/8); C. 18. Total length: 290 mm; Weight: 250 gm; Standard length: 253 mm; Furcal length: 273 mm.

Sutlej has trout streams (Baspa) and is serviced by trout hatchery (Sangla), but trout were never caught below Rampur. There was no report of trout from this reservoir which came into existence in 1964 after construction of dam at Bhakra; or till the Beas-Sutlej Link canal, completed in 1977, bringing water of Beas river in considerable quantity from Pandoh reservoir. Beas river has extensive trout streams in its course, besides Pandoh reservoir itself yielding considerable quantity of trout every year, from its inception; besides it is serviced by two hatcheries (Katrain and Patlikuhl or Naggar). This suggests the possibility of trout entering Gobindsagar from the river Beas through the Beas-Sutlej Link. Which ever may be the source, its occurrence in Gobindsagar, that too in Lathiani area (Lunkhar Khad) and Bilaspur are of interest as the surface water temperature remained between 24°C. and 17°C. in the area.

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